

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-521

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC**Submission Date :** JUL 08, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-521**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC

Address : P.O. Box 1227

Westwood NJ 07675-1227

Company phone : 18005257417

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 138

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2019 BMW X3 sDrive30i, X3 xDrive30i, X3 M40i

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 126 vehicles have been manufactured with a front passenger seat occupant classification system that may not have been produced to supplier specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly and parts supplier information was reviewed to determine the production date of the potentially affected vehicle.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The front passenger seat occupant classification system may not have been produced to supplier specifications.

Production Dates : DEC 14, 2017 - JUN 03, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2019 BMW X4 xDrive30i, X4 M40i

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 12 vehicles have been manufactured with a front passenger seat occupant classification system that may not have been produced to supplier specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly and parts supplier information was reviewed to determine the production date of the potentially affected vehicle.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The front passenger seat occupant classification system may not have been produced to supplier specifications.

Production Dates : JUL 13, 2018 - MAY 17, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : This safety recall involves the front passenger seat occupant classification system. During supplier production, the seat assembly process, which involves the occupant classification system, may not have been performed to specifications. Attachment rings, which secure the seat trim to the seat foam, may not have been properly secured and could contact an electrical cable in the area of the seat frame. Over time, if the ring(s) were to subsequently lose contact with the electrical cable, this could affect the performance of the occupant classification system. In certain rare cases, specifically small persons in certain seating positions, this could result in the system classifying the front passenger seat as unoccupied, and not illuminate the air bag warning lamp.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In a crash necessitating deployment of the front passenger air bag, if the system misclassified the seat as unoccupied, the air bag would not deploy and increase the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Seat Foam (including Occupant Classification Sys)

Component Description : Occupant Classification System

Component Part Number : 6994376 / 6994374

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Lear Corporation Duncan

Address : 1200 Woods Chapel Rd.
Duncan South Carolina 29334

Country : United States

Chronology :

In January 2021, subsequent to a systems design review of the current generation occupant classification system, including its design, assembly, and field performance, BMW initiated an engineering investigation.

Between February and March, investigations were performed to examine whether certain seat assembly production process steps could affect the field performance of the occupant classification system. A detailed review of the occupant classification system, involving the seat foam and the system's wiring, was initiated. The system calibration process, including the values obtained during system calibration, was reviewed. At the time, it was unclear whether any system performance issue could cause the system to misclassify an occupant in the front passenger seat.

In April and May, engineering analyses were conducted and tests were performed on a wide variety of vehicle models and seat types to further understand the issue and determine possible scope. End-of-line testing calibration records were collected and analyzed to determine the distribution of the dataset.

In June, further reviews indicated that, even if the occupant classification system was properly calibrated and released, in certain rare cases (small persons in certain seating positions) in which the attachment ring(s) were to lose contact with the electrical cable, the system could misclassify the occupancy of the front passenger seat.

Vehicle assembly and supplier information was reviewed to determine the number and production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

On June 30, 2021, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary recall.

BMW has not received any reports, nor is otherwise aware, of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The seat foam (including occupant classification system) will be replaced.

Owners will be notified by First Class mail and instructed to take their vehicle to an authorized BMW center to have the remedy performed for free. If this condition was noticed on a potentially affected vehicle prior to this recall, the remedy would be covered by the BMW New Vehicle Limited Warranty program. Therefore, reimbursement for a pre-notification remedy re Part 573.13 and Part 577.11 is not necessary.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Recalled Component: Seat Foam (including Occupant Classification System) – part number – 6994376 / 6994374

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is planned to begin and end on Jul 8, 2021.

Notification to owners is planned to begin and end on Aug 30, 2021.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 08, 2021 - JUL 08, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 30, 2021 - AUG 30, 2021

* NR - Not Reported